

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Minutes August 27, 2002**

Rosemarie White chaired the meeting which began with Introductions. Also attending were David Arshalomov, Genn Bailey, Sharon Brewer, Trevor Daley, Tish Gellenson, Gene Greene, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin, Jarron Lucas, Joyce MacKinnon, Tom Persons, Gerald Silver, James Ward, Melanie Winter, and Sandy Wohlgemuth.

Councilwoman Ruth Galanter's Office: Deputy Trevor Daley reported the office will represent its new valley district only for 40 more weeks, doing so because the councilwoman's district was reassigned in redistricting. They are trying to use their time realistically and effectively. Please contact them if they can be helpful. Trevor is the representative for the Sepulveda Basin. He has been working on the issue of homeless families living along Haskell Creek just south of Victory. Members pointed out that there are several other places in the basin as well. The office is trying to provide social services along with getting these people to move. Gene Greene has been working with Trevor on this. There will be a **tour of the WA for Trevor at 4:00 Friday 9/13. Meet at the amphitheater. Each representative should bring a brochure of their agency and a list of requests of Trevor.**

Business: Minutes of the 7/23/02 Meeting: Approved without change. Public Comment: Sharon Brewer said that something has to be done about fishing at Lake Balboa and showed samples of fishing line, hooks and the like that she collected there. She requests that Rec & Parks pick up litter and monitor the fishing. James replied that Rec & Parks is working on it, that his staff has been instructed to pick up such litter and that Fish & Game is in charge of monitoring the fishing. He will try to reinstate Fish & Game's educational programs at Lake Balboa on fishing. R&P is proposing a city-wide water manager position. Tish suggested drivers entering Lake Balboa be stopped by a uniformed person on the way in and handed a brochure. Melanie would rather see the rules posted than have litter producers handed out. R&P is thinking of an interactive video screen. Tom Persons commented that he visited the WA around 10:00 p.m. recently and saw several people fishing and 3 with fishing tackle. If we see an incident, we should call Park Ranger Dispatch: 323/913-7390. James will talk to Tom Cotter to see how much coverage there is now at the WA.

TreePeople: Tom Persons, Mountain Forestry Manager, looks for places to do restoration projects. He wants to form a partnership with the organizations here. TreePeople's forte is organizing volunteers. They are now using 90% native species of trees. Tom would like to start with a watering, maintenance, mulching project on the young oaks in the WA. Steve H thinks that most of our tree planting in the WA is complete. The area west of Haskell Creek is revegetating on its own. The oaks around that area are on a drip system and don't need watering. Steve suggests some native perennial bunch grasses in the burn area. Tom would like to plant thickets of trees. A November planting? Muriel suggested the west bank of Haskell Creek for riparian trees, oaks north of WA parking and oaks & native shrubs for the archery range. Tom, Steve H (and Muriel) will coordinate. Tom also wants to put up some good bat boxes. Glenn would like Tom to look at the south reserve to see if some of the barren portion would be appropriate for oak trees.

Background of Wildlife Areas Steering Committee: SBWASC was formed about 1989 as the Haskell Creek Park Committee, as it was felt the WA should be extended out to Woodley Ave. Rosemarie would like any records to put together on that. The Wildlife Lake was funded by the state; Fish & Game recommended an advisory committee for it. In 1993 the Consortium and Wildlife Committee made mission statements. The Wildlife Committee submitted its to Rec & Parks who made suggestions for changes. Rosemarie has noted

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that the mission statement was never formally adopted. She will work with Glenn to review the mission statement for revision &/or adoption.

Recreation & Parks: James Ward reported they are working with Bureau of Sanitation to put an aeration (bubbler) system in Lake Balboa to improve the water quality. Sanitation will fund the project. Construction will take place over the next 2 or 3 weeks. Next weekend, a large cricket event with international teams may attract 500 - 1,000 people. The cricket field south of the road is being rebuilt. Next July there will be a major cricket event with televised games, etc! Woodley Golf House is now open except for the dining area, which will open in late Sept. There will be a mayor's volunteer luncheon and a Whole Food event on 9/28 at Woodley Park, with about 10,000 people. Jerry Silver commented that the Encino Community Council's position paper asked for a limit of 1,000 people on a day. Muriel is concerned about the impact on the teachers workshop 9/28. There will be a Users Committee in October.

Japanese Garden: Gene asked us to call him if we see any dumping along Haskell Creek near Victory. Berm tours have begun. Call Gene for tours. About 200 take tours of the garden on weekends. Exotics have been controlled. Gene would like the median along Woodley Avenue planted, irrigated with reclaimed water. He asked like Steve H and Tom to work on planting plans.

San Fernando Valley Audubon: Muriel distributed flyers for Birdwalks for Families and Beginners which will resume on Second Saturdays October through March at 8:30 a.m.

Canada Goose Project: Tish said about 300 migratory geese are here already. They need food. Can irrigation for forage start now? James will talk to Steve Moe, but if a late summer heat wave happens, it could wipe out the planting. He'll try. James said that 100 birds on Woodley Golf Course are too many.

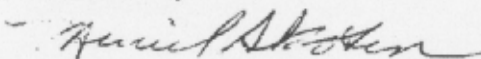
California Native Plant Society: Steve H will present information about native bunch grasses at our next meeting. Also, the Sierra Club will talk about Pierce College.

The River Project: Melanie reported that City Council has an ad-hoc river committee now. Lupe Vela heads the staff. City is planning to re-do all bridges over LAR and Tujunga Wash, but leaving out the bikeways. Melanie is pushing to do it right, using CalTrans discretionary and federal funds. Landscape guidelines for all projects along LAR are finally being developed by LA County. Melanie is trying to have habitat and appropriate fencing included as considerations.

Southwest Herpetologists: Jarron distributed a reptile checklist (not including the amphibians) of the WA. Bullfrogs are probably kept in check by the predatory birds. Jarron will get more time next meeting to discuss his suggestions for herps in the WA.

Miscellaneous: Gene Green recently got special recognition from City Council. Steve Moe has a library of important documents for Sepulveda Basin.

Submitted by



Muriel S. Kotin, Member Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee